

Plant Fact Sheet

BLOWOUT GRASS

Redfieldia flexuosa (Thurb.)

Vasey

Plant Symbol = REFL

Contributed By: USDA NRCS National Plant Data Center



From Hitchcock (1950)
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Uses

The primary use of blowout grass is to protect sandy areas from wind erosion.

Status

Please consult the PLANTS Web site and your State Department of Natural Resources for this plant's current status, such as, state noxious status, and wetland indicator values.

Description

Grass Family (Poaceae). Blowout grass is a native, warm-season, rhizomatous perennial grass. The average height ranges from 2 to 2-1/2 feet. The leaf blade is smooth, rolls inward, and tapers to a fine point. The seedhead has an open panicle one-third to one-half as long as the seed stalk.

Distribution: For current distribution, please consult the Plant Profile page for this species on the PLANTS Web site.

Management

This grass is managed primarily as a wind-erosion control plant. It may be grazed lightly by cattle and horses during the dormant season.

Establishment

Growth starts in spring when the average daily temperature is 60° to 65° F. Most leaves are basal. It reproduces from long, slender rhizomes grow in the upper few inches of soil. It is found growing in colonies on deep sandy to very sandy soils that are subject to blowing, plus on sand deposits several inches deep.

Cultivars, Improved and Selected Materials (and area of origin)

Please contact your local NRCS Field Office.

Reference

Leithead, H.L., L.L. Yarlett, & T.N. Shiflett. 1976. 100 native forage grasses in 11 southern states. USDA SCS Agriculture Handbook No. 389, Washington, DC.

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For more information about this and other plants, please contact your local NRCS field office or Conservation District, and visit the PLANTS Web site <<http://plants.usda.gov>> or the Plant Materials Program Web site <<http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov>>

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